

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03230 091459Z
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /025 W
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R 062127Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 897
INFO AMCONSUL CALI

UNCLAS BOGOTA 3230

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: EINV, CO
SUBJECT: OPIC ANDEAN INVESTMENT MISSION - FINAL ADVANCE TRIP
TO COLOMBIA

REF: STATE 054722

1. VISIT OF OPIC ADVANCE OFFICERS MANDBACH AND MASHKES FOR OPIC INVESTMENT MISSION MAY 16-18 HAS BEEN COMPLETED.
 2. DURING THE VISIT, OPIC OFFICIALS AND EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED ON VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND LOCAL BANKS ALL OF WHICH WERE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MISSION.
 3. ALTHOUGH INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN THE MISSION BY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS (ANDI, COLOMBIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND LOCAL OFFICES OF U.S. BANKS), IT IS APPARENT THAT SUPPORT FROM THESE GROUPS WILL BE LIMITED. THEREFORE THE EMBASSY IN BOGOTA AND CONSULATE IN CALI WILL BE DEVOTING A LARGER AMOUNT OF RESOURCES TO THE MISSION THAN ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED. THIS ALSO WILL NECESSITATE A LARGER FINANCIAL COMMITMENT BY OPIC SINCE LITTLE INTEREST WAS GENERATED AMONG LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PAYING FOR LUNCHESES, DINNERS, ETC. FOR THE OPIC MISSION AS REQUESTED BY MANSBACH.
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4. SPECIFICALLY, ANDI HAS INFORMED US THAT THEY WILL NOT MAKE AND CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS, HOST A LUNCHEON IN BOGOTA, ARRANGE PRIVATE DINNERS, ETC. AS ORIGINALLY HOPED. THE WEEK AFTER THE OPIC ADVANCE OFFICERS LEFT BOGOTA, DR. GONZALEZ OF ANDI NOTIFIED THE EMBASSY THAT THE ONLY SUPPORT WHICH THEY COULD GIVE TO THE MISSION

IS TO ASSIST THE EMBASSY IN MAKING INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS WITH ANDI MEMBERS. IN OTHER WORDS, ANDI WILL PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH A LIST OF THEIR MEMBERS. THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF ANDI, DR. ECHEVERRI, DECIDED THAT ANDI WOULD BE UNABLE TO SUPPORT THE MISSION SINCE THEY HAVE ALREADY PROGRAMMED SEVERAL SEMINARS DURING MAY. SECONDLY, HE BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THEM TO ASK THEIR MEMBERS TO HOST PRIVATE DINNERS FOR UNKNOWN U.S. BUSINESSMEN AS SUGGESTED BY MANSBACH. FINALLY, REGIONAL DIRECTORS OF ANDI IN BOTH BOGOTA AND CALI HAVE STATED THEY ARE UNABLE TO SUPPORT THE MISSION (I.E. PROVIDE LISTS OF ANDI MEMBERS) UNTIL THEY KNOW WHO THE U.S. BUSINESSMEN ARE, FIRMS REPRESENTED, AND PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT OPIC'S DEADLINE FOR RECRUITING MISSION MEMBERS IS APRIL 25, WHICH WOULD LEAVE THREE WEEKS TO FINALIZE PLANS FOR THE VISIT. GIVEN THE LIMITED SUPPORT AVAILABLE FROM LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, POST NEEDS A FINAL CONFIRMED LIST OF MISSION PARTICIPANTS AND FIRMS REPRESENTED NLT APRIL 15, TO ENSURE TIMELY PREPARATIONS FOR THE MISSION. ALL LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS THE GOC WILL NOT BEGIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR BRIEFINGS, LUNCHEONS, ETC. UNTIL THEY RECEIVE THIS LIST.

6. QUESTIONS WHICH STILL NEED TO BE RESOLVED BY OPIC CONCERNING PREPARATIONS FOR THE MISSION INCLUDE:

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A. PURPOSE OF MISSION MEMBERS' INTERVIEWS WITH COLOMBIAN BUSINESSMEN. ARE MISSION MEMBERS LOOKING FOR SPECIFIC INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES OR ARE THEY WILLING TO SPEAK WITH COLOMBIAN BUSINESSMEN CONCERNING THE GENERAL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK FOR INVESTMENT? SHOULD THESE MEETINGS BE INDIVIDUAL OR GROUPS? IF GROUPS, WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS?

B. WHERE WILL THE INTERVIEWS BE HELD - IN THE MISSION MEMBERS' ROOMS OR IN A GENERAL MEETING AREA?

7. A PROPOSED BUDGET, TENTATIVE ITINERARY, AND MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTEL.
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Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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